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April 10, 2003

RECEIVED

APR 11 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Art Unit 1637

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 10/067,543; Filed: February 7, 2002
For: Compositions and Methods for Molecular Biology
Inventors: Byrd, *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.5230001/RWE/B-C

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement;
2. One (1) return postcard.

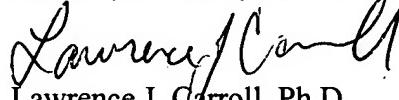
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
April 10, 2003
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Lawrence J. Carroll, Ph.D.
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 40,940

RWE/B-C:law
Enclosures

::ODMA\MHODMA\SKGF_DC1;122112;1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Byrd, *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/067,543

Filed: February 7, 2003

For: **Compositions and Methods for
Molecular Biology**

Confirmation No. 7830

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Strzelecka, Teresa E.

Atty. Docket: 0942.5230001/RWE/B-C

Reply To Restriction Requirement **RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

APR 11 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **March 20, 2003**, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1, 3-6, 13-16, 34, 35, and 54. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. This election is made **without** traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of

time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Lawrence J. Carroll, Ph.D.
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Date: April 10, 2003

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